TRAVELER'S BRIEFING

ANGOLA

(Republica de Angola)

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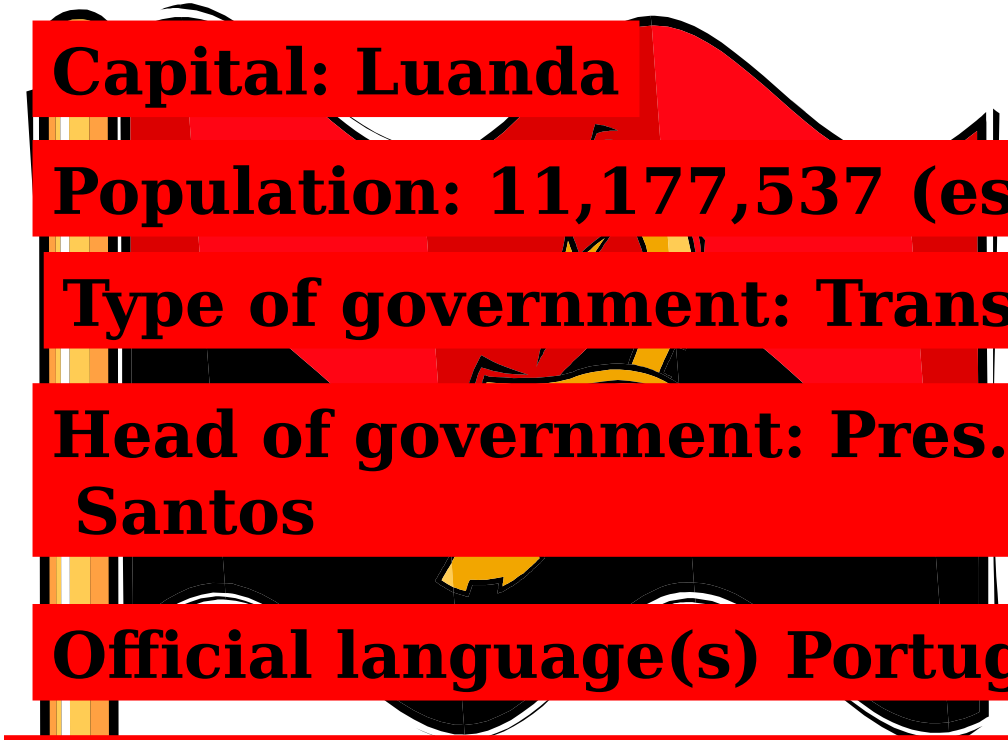
BACKGROUND

Full Name: Republic of Angola



Capital: Luanda

Population: 11,177,537 (est)

Type of government: Transitional demo

Head of government: Pres. Jose Eduard Santos

Official language(s) Portuguese, Bantu

Economy: no established central economy

Religions: Indigenous (47%), Catholic (38%)
Protestant (15%)

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: All travel out of Luanda by US Government employees or personnel on USG projects must be approved by the Ambassador. Travel outside Luanda, the

International Airport: Luanda

Flights from Frankfurt: None

Other methods of arrival: Ship/Road/Rail

U.S. Embassy address: Rua Houari Boumedinne, Miramar District, Luanda

Transportation: Public transportation: Poor.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Poor.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Poor.

Availability of roadside assistance: Poor. Destinations in the interior are accessible safely only by private or chartered aircraft. Civilians have been killed by bandits or land mines exploding while traveling overland. Overland routes to

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: Personnel on leave require passport and visa. Visa must be obtained in advance. Persons arriving without visas are subject to possible arrest or deportation. The GPRA maintains strict controls on the entry of foreigners into Angola, and visitors who cannot defer travel are advised that they must obtain Angolan visas before arrival. Americans who must travel to Angola should scrupulously adhere to GPRA laws and regulations.

Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is required.

Duty-free entry for personal effects.

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: The Department of State warns U.S. citizens against travel to Angola because of renewed military conflict and continuing violent crime. There are severe shortages of lodging transportation, food, water and utilities in Luanda and other cities in the country. Shortages result in a lack of sanitary conditions in many areas, including Luanda.

MONEY

Currency restrictions: US dollars can be converted to local currency at exchange houses authorized by the Angolan government. Large denominations of US currency may not be widely accepted. Currency conversions on the parallel (black) market are illegal and participants are subject to arrest. Rapid fluctuations in the value of the Angolan Kwanza, and shortages of US dollars are widespread. Only the newer series US $100 dollar bills are acceptable due to widespread counterfeiting of the older style.

Rate: Approximate: 6 New Kwanza for $1.

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HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, malaria, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, and heat injuries.

Availability of medical services: Poor. Medical facilities are virtually non-existent throughout Angola. Most medicine is

Medical Insurance: May not apply in Angola. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.

Status of hospitals: Poor

Health Precautions: Chloroquine-resistant and cerebral malarial are endemic in Angola. Travelers should consider taking prophylaxis against malaria. Angola suffers from high rates of malaria, intestinal parasites, rabies, and a variety of contagious and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV. All possible vaccinations should be obtained.

Richard Emblin/Black Star

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B, MMR ,typhoid,

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance is needed for high-ranking officers traveling to Angola. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of

Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

Water purification tablets and boiling water are recommended. Use canned or dried milk. Wash with disinfectant or cook fruits and vegetables. Eat at recommended places. Malarial drugs and mosquito nets are advised. Travel within Angola remains unsafe due to bandit attacks, undisciplined police and military personnel, sporadic high-intensity military actions in interior provinces, and unexploded land mines in rural areas. Foreign nationals, especially independent entrepreneurs, are subject to arbitrary detention and/or deportation by immigration and police authorities. The security situation in Angola remains extremely volatile. Large crowds and demonstrations should be avoided. Travel in the interior is unsafe because of high-intensity military actions, bandit attacks in villages and on

CRIME

Criminal Activities: Violent crime occurs regularly throughout Angola. Street crime is common in all areas of Luanda, at all hours. Foreigners, including U.S. citizens, have been the targets of violent robberies in their homes and hotel rooms. Because of the high incidence of armed robberies and carjackings, travelers are cautioned against airport arrivals after dark. Before arrival, ensure that you have arranged for reliable transportation from the airport. Only unregulated taxis are available at the airport and in Luanda. They are unsafe, a high crime risk and should not be used. City streets are patrolled by soldiers and police who normally carry automatic weapons. The soldiers and police are unpredictable and their authority should not be challenged. All motorists should stop at nighttime police checkpoints if so ordered. Police officers, often while still in uniform, frequently participate in shakedowns, muggings, carjackings and murders. Travelers should be alert to a number of scams

Angola is strict on: Drugs.

WEATHER

http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html

Http://www.weatherunderground.com/

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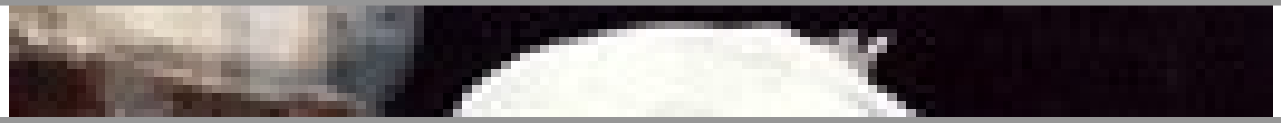
CLOTHING



Uniform restrictions: Civilian clothing will be worn.

This concludes the TRAVELER'S BRIEFING for

ANGOLA